



**STATE OF OHIO**  
Emergency Operations Center  
**SITUATION REPORT**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Governor John R. Kasich  
**FROM:** Ohio Emergency Management Agency  
**SUBJECT:** Toledo Water Issue (Lucas County)  
**DATE:** August 5, 2014

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This is the second Situation Report for this incident. This information is current as of 8:00 a.m.

**INCIDENT SYNOPSIS**

**City of Toledo Water Emergency (Lucas County)**

At approximately 9:40 a.m. on August 4, 2014, the Mayor of Toledo, Ohio announced that testing indicated the water in the area's water system was safe to drink and the water advisory was lifted. Following this announcement the SEOC began transitioning to a recovery posture. The SEOC continues to monitor the situation. The report detailing the water test results was released to the public. A copy of the report can be found on WebEOC on the miscellaneous attachments board.

**Incident History**

Residents in-and-around the Toledo metropolitan area had been under an order since August 2, 2014 to not drink or cook with water from municipal water supplies. The alert came after a dangerous toxin (microcystin) was discovered in two water samples taken that morning at the Collins Park Water Treatment Plant in Toledo. Water coming from wells was determined to be safe to drink. Many area businesses and public facilities were closed; including schools, restaurants, zoos, and libraries. The toxin was the result of a large bloom of algae in the western side of Lake Erie.

State and local elected leaders, emergency management, public safety, public works, environmental protection and public health agencies assessed impacts and worked to ensure that adequate water for the impacted Ohioans was available. Information was shared as it became available, and guidance and recommendations were adjusted based upon the information that was received.

## **EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS**

The Governor declared a State of Emergency for Fulton, Lucas and Wood counties at 10:00 a.m. on August 2, 2014.

Emergency Declarations were also been issued by Lucas County, the Wood County Commissioners, the City of Perrysburg, the Northwestern Water & Sewer District, the City of Rossford and the Village of Walbridge.

## **COUNTY IMPACTS**

### **Local Actions in Lucas County**

Toledo Distribution Points operated throughout the incident. The Lucas County EOC was activated and remained in operation for the duration of the incident.

### **Local Actions in Wood County**

Many big-box retail stores were able to receive several shipments of bottled water in their locations within the impacted area.

Wood County operated a water distribution point in Rossford, Ohio.

Fire Jurisdictions worked with Law Enforcement and local elected officials to assess need and determine potential points of distribution for bottled water. Fire Departments that had access to well water or public water from Oregon Water Treatment provided to residents of their jurisdiction.

Local law enforcement and the Sheriff's department were available to assist with security and traffic control as needed.

### **Local Public Health Officials**

Local public health officials advised local restaurants in the impacted areas to close, and reported that nursing and medical facilities reported no needs.

### **Northwestern Water & Sewer District (NWWSD):**

The impacted jurisdictions were the City of Perrysburg, the City of Rossford and the Village of Walbridge. NWWSD entered emergency mode on August 2, 2014 and made contact with City of Toledo to confirm the presence of the toxin in the public water supply. NWWSD notified impacted residents and advised them that free water would be made available at their Water Shed locations listed on their website. The NWWSD closed valves from the City of Toledo and worked off of reserve water within Wood County. The NWWSD contracted with a supplier of bottled water and made it available to the impacted jurisdictions. On August 2, 2014 NWWSD began to supply public water as the county reserves were running extremely low. An additional temporary Water

Shed location was established at Perrysburg High School in which residents could obtain water utilizing their own containers.

## **STATE-LEVEL ASSISTANCE BY EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION**

List actions and activities under the appropriate Emergency Support Function (ESF)

### **ESF 1 – Transportation**

ODOT District 02 Lucas County Garage staged water and loaded it for redistribution to various areas.

PUCO Intrastate Regulatory Relief from Hours-of-Service Requirements was issued for transportation of water and other related emergency supplies and materials to the residences and businesses in Fulton, Lucas and Wood Counties.

ODRC transported 8,000 gallons of water from Clark County to Wood County.

All water shipments to the Toledo area were demobilized at 11:00 a.m. on August 4, 2014

18 pallets of heater meals and 18 pallets of meals ready to eat (MRE) were demobilized and arrangements made to return the heater meals to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and the MREs to the Ohio National Guard.

### **ESF-2 - Communications**

ECOMM 13 was assigned for use by assets in general for this incident on August 2, 2014. This channel was monitored by SEOC personnel. There were no further missions for ESF-2.

### **ESF-3 – Engineering and Public Works**

ODNR supported ONG to provide water buffaloes for potable water distribution within Lucas County. A total of 12 buffaloes were requested and there were four on site.

The Ohio National Guard deployed 3 Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Units (ROWPU's), and approximately 15 water tankers to purify and transport potable water to points of distribution throughout the city of Toledo.

ODNR, Division of Parks provided a tractor trailer with flatbed holding 4, 500 gallon water tanks with a 2000 gallon total capacity, which was delivered to Cleveland Municipal Water and then sent on to the staging area at the Lucas county ODOT district office in Maumee, OH.

ODNR Division of Forestry provided a 1,000 gallon poly tank (potable), two 500 gallon poly tanks (potable), and two 400 gallon water buffalo (potable).

4,800 gallons of water delivered to the Toledo Zoo will be used in the Hippo Exhibit.

#### **ESF 4 – Firefighting**

Fire Response Plan (FRP) assets from Ottawa, Henry, Sandusky, Fulton, and Hancock counties working in concert with Ohio National Guard assets pumped and delivered close to 120,000 gallons of water from August 2, until approximately 11:00 am on August 4. As of 11:00 a.m. on August 4<sup>th</sup> all FRP activated water tenders have been demobilized and are back on station with local departments.

#### **ESF 5 – Information & Planning**

Since the onset of the incident, the State of Ohio recognized the need for residents of Toledo that are affected by this crisis to have access to potable water. Through a joint effort between multiple private sector partners, state agencies, local partners, and the Ohio National Guard, the State of Ohio made a concerted effort to ensure the residents of Toledo had access to potable water. Approximately 230,000 gallons of potable water was transported and distributed during the incident.

ESF-5 was activated and staffed at 8:00 a.m. on August 2 and remained staffed on a 24 hour basis. Two Field Liaisons were dispatched to Lucas County and one Field Liaison was dispatched to Wood County to provide assistance to the County EMA and to assist the SEOC with situational awareness.

#### **State and Local Response**

State partners, including assets from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and the Ohio Department of Transportation transported or provided over 30,000 gallons of water to points of distribution throughout the City of Toledo. The State of Ohio also purchased 10 semi-truckloads of water, each containing up to 24 pallets of bottled water.

Numerous local communities have reached out and provided potable drinking water for this incident, as well. Most notably, the City of Cleveland allowed numerous ODNR water tankers to fill up at the Westlake water treatment plant and transport that potable water to distribution points throughout the City of Toledo.

#### **National Guard Response**

Local fire department water tankers, activated by the Ohio Fire Response Plan (FRP), worked in concert with National Guard assets to assist in the purification and transportation of bulk water to Points of Distribution.

The Ohio National Guard deployed 3 Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Units (ROWPU's) and approximately 15 water tankers to purify and transport potable water to points of distribution throughout the City of Toledo. With assistance from local fire department water tankers, the Ohio National Guard was able to provide over 40,000 gallons of potable water.

## **Private Sector**

Private sector entities, including Kroger, Walgreens, Reiter Dairy, Anheuser Busch, and CVS donated and transported over 100,000 gallons of water.

## **ESF 6 – Mass Care**

The Salvation Army continued to serve meals at Central Catholic, Springfield and Woodward High School water distribution sites until they closed at 11:00 am August 4, 2014. Leftover prepared food will be taken to area homeless shelters

Aging provided outreach to long term care providers and health care facilities to ensure needs were met.

Meals on Wheels and other meal delivery services assisted with delivery of water and supplies to homebound populations.

Salvation Army prepared meals for workers/volunteers at 3 locations.

The Ohio Board of Regents/Ohio Department of Education reported that the water emergency presented numerous challenges for the University of Toledo (UT). UT opened up an emergency command center to respond to the incident. The timing of the water emergency was fortuitous in some ways, as school was not in session and population on main campus was very low. Drinking water reserves were adequate and food service delivery was challenged, but continued.

## **ESF 7 – Resource Support**

State partners, including assets from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources provided more than 30,000 gallons of water to points of distribution throughout the city of Toledo.

Private sector entities, including Kroger, Walgreens, Reiter Dairy, Anheuser Busch, and CVS donated over 100,000 gallons of water.

Anheuser-Busch provided 4,851 gallons of canned water with an ETA into Toledo at 7:00 p.m. today. The water will be utilized by the American Red Cross for homebound individuals that were encountered during the response and other response activities as needed.

## **ESF-8 – Public Health and Medical Services**

Guidance was released by the Toledo/Lucas County Health Department regarding the flushing of plumbing systems, both for systems that were active and inactive at the time of the water use ban.

ODH previously reported that six area hospitals were impacted: ProMedica Toledo/Toledo Children's, ProMedica Flower, ProMedica St. Luke's, UTMC, Mercy St. Anne, and Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center.

ODH contacted local health departments to provide formula preparation information in media notifications.

### **ESF-10 – Hazardous Materials**

The Ohio EPA maintained on-going communications with testing labs and representatives from USEPA. These on-going efforts sought to verify testing results for decision-making purposes. Updates were provided to all involved parties.

### **ESF 13 – Law Enforcement**

The Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) provided escorts for Ohio National Guard water transportation convoys. OSHP air assets transported water samples to various laboratories for analysis. OSHP units in the Toledo area assisted with security efforts at water distribution points.

### **ESF 15 – Emergency Public Information and External Affairs**

The JIC fielded media calls and provided interviews regarding the state's overall response and support of the water emergency. The Governor participated in a joint press conference with the Mayor of Toledo. The JIC promoted 211 as a resource for residents on social media.

### **SITREP DATA/BRIEFING**

This is the second Situation Report for this incident. Spot Reports and other reports have been issued and are available on WebEOC.

No further Situation Briefings have been scheduled for this incident.

### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

The State EOC remains operational to monitor the situation.